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action to be taken by this second Hague Conference the following measures :

"1. A provision for stated meetings of the Hague Conference.

"2. Such changes in the Hague Court as may be necessary to establish a definite judicial tribunal always open for the adjudication of international questions.

"3. A general arbitration treaty for the settlement of international disputes.

"4. The establishment of the principle of the inviolability of innocent private property at sea in time of war.

"5. A declaration to the effect that there should be no armed intervention for the collection of private claims when the debtor nation is willing to submit such claims to arbitration.

"6. We commend, in accordance with our resolution of last year, the consideration by the Hague Conference of a plan for the neutralization of ocean trade routes."

### Editorial Notes.

**Labor and Armaments.** When the army scheme was under discussion in the House of Commons on April 23, Mr. J. Ramsay Macdonald, a Labor member, said, among other things, that the Labor party was "not at all convinced that it was necessary to increase the *personnel* of the army at the present time." He declared :

"Every reasonable man must have come to the conclusion that this game of beggar my neighbor, of adding battalion to battalion because some other country had done it, or a third country was threatening to do it, had gone on long enough, and must have had sufficient demonstration to convince him that the time had come for us to try and meet our difficulties not by increasing armaments, but by an attempt to come to a diplomatic understanding regarding the limitation of armaments. The Labor party belonged to an international Parliamentary party that was charged with the task of holding up this view in every Parliament in Europe. [Cheers.] They would be untrue to the international character of the Labor and Socialist party if they allowed a bill increasing the *personnel* of the army to go through the British House of Commons without protest. [Labor cheers.] We are not in favor of a nation in arms. It is a grandiloquent expression. It looks patriotic. One has to disclaim it almost with an apology, because so many people imagine that unless you are in favor of it you are not a patriot, not a lover of your country, and do not appreciate your historical past. I deny the accusation. [Labor and Ministerial cheers.] It is false. Those of us who decline to echo and reëcho this cry of a nation in arms do so because we are convinced by the history of European countries, by the study of contemporary politics at home and abroad, that this nation-in-arms cry is not going to solve one single problem that faces us as a power in the world or to help us to keep the flag of our country high or to keep it clean, as we desire."

### Intolerable as War.

At the recent Conference of Colonial Premiers in London, Sir Wilfred Laurier, Premier of Canada, made an impressive reference, in his speech on April 26, to the contrast which always struck him, when visiting Europe, between the unarmed condition of his country and the armed camp of Europe.

"Every time I come to Europe," he said, "I am more and more impressed with the existence of a condition of things here which does not exist amongst the daughter nations of England. In Europe you are living in an armed camp. You are living under a condition of armed peace almost as intolerable as war itself. [Hear, hear.] Heaven be thanked, we are free from these considerations in our country. We have only one neighbor, a kindred nation, with whom we have had no serious trouble for a hundred years. We propose shortly to celebrate that century of peace and invite the governments of Europe to take a lesson from our experience. [Cheers.] We are separated from our neighbors by great inland seas, in which there is more traffic than in the Mediterranean, and there is not a war vessel in these waters. [Cheers.] That is a condition we intend to maintain. [Hear, hear.] Public works are the chief item in our budget. We have incurred enormous expenditure in building canals and railways, we have still to spend millions in that way, which gives the key to the fact that our economic conditions are not the same as in England. The imperial maxim ought to be imperial unity, but local liberty and local autonomy. [Cheers.] If this ideal is followed up, we shall give to the world the spectacle of an empire maintained not by force, but by the consent of the governed." [Cheers.]

### Brevities.

. . . Hon. Robert Treat Paine, president of the American Peace Society, has been in southern Europe the last two months. He will arrive at The Hague about the middle of June and expects to remain there while the Conference is in session. Mr. Paine is well acquainted with several members of the American Delegation and with other members of the Conference, and will, without doubt, find excellent opportunities, in a private way, for promoting the success of the deliberations.

. . . Of the three hundred members of the Mohonk Conference we noticed that more than forty were members of the American Peace Society.

. . . The business committee of the Mohonk Conference suggested for consideration at the Conference next year the subject of the lending of money by the people of neutral states to belligerents, and the expediency of providing for the investigation of disputes not considered suitable for arbitration by an impartial commission of inquiry before declaration of hostilities.

. . . On May 24 the Netherlands Senate approved the bill, adopted by the Lower House on May 7, appropriating \$40,000 for the expenses of the reception of the delegates to the second Hague Conference. In the course of the discussion on the bill, Dr. Van Goudrian, the